

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An optically readable media and packaging therefor, said media comprising a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media being sealed within said packaging with a source of a chemical compound that inhibits said change, said media further being sealed within said packaging with a getter of said chemical compound that over time absorbs said chemical compound.
2. An optically readable media and packaging therefor, said media comprising a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media being sealed within said packaging with a source of a reactive chemical compound that inhibits said change, said media further being sealed within said packaging with a substance that over time renders unreactive said reactive chemical compound.
3. An optically readable media and packaging therefor, said media comprising a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media being sealed within said packaging with a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change, said media further being sealed within said packaging with a getter of said chemical compound that absorbs said chemical compound until saturated with said chemical compound, after which the concentration of said chemical compound increases until the media is rendered unreadable.
4. An optically readable media as in claim 3, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of NMP.
5. An optically readable media as in claim 3, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of DMF.

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6. An optically readable media as in claim 3, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of acetone.
7. An optically readable media as in claim 3, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of HCl.
8. An optically readable media and packaging therefor, said media comprising a layer that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media being sealed within said packaging with a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change, said media further comprising a diffusion barrier that inhibits, but does not prevent, said chemical compound from reaching said layer.
9. An optically readable media and packaging therefor, said media comprising a layer that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media being sealed within said packaging with a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change, said source comprising a diffusion barrier that inhibits, but does not prevent, said chemical compound from reaching said layer.
10. An optically readable media, said media comprising a first layer that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media comprising a second layer that contains a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change, said media further comprising a diffusion barrier that is interposed between said first layer and said second layer that inhibits, but does not prevent, said chemical compound from reaching said first layer.
11. A method for limiting the usable life of an optically readable media, comprising:  
providing an optically readable media that comprises a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media; and

sealing said media within a package with a source of a chemical compound that inhibits said change and with a getter of said chemical compound that over time absorbs said chemical compound.

12. A method for limiting the usable life of an optically readable media, comprising:

providing an optically readable media that comprises a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media; and

sealing said media within a package with a source of a chemical compound that inhibits said change and with a getter of said chemical compound that over time renders unreactive said chemical compound.

13. A method for limiting the usable life of an optically readable media, comprising:

providing an optically readable media that comprises a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media; and

sealing said media within a package with a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change and with a getter of said chemical compound that over time absorbs said chemical compound until saturated with said chemical compound, after which the concentration of said chemical compound increases until the media is rendered unreadable.

14. A method as in claim 13, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of NMP.

15. A method as in claim 13, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of DMF.

16. A method as in claim 13, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of acetone.

17. A method as in claim 13, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of HCl.
18. A method for limiting the usable life of an optically readable media, comprising:
  - providing an optically readable media that comprises a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media; and
  - sealing said media within a package with a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change and with a diffusion barrier that inhibits, but does not prevent, said chemical compound from reaching said layer.
19. A method as in claim 18, wherein said diffusion barrier comprises a part of said media.
20. A method as in claim 18, wherein said diffusion barrier comprises a part of said source.
21. A method as in claim 18, wherein said diffusion barrier and said source both comprise a part of said media.
22. An optically readable media and packaging therefor, said media comprising a material that over time undergoes at least one of a chemical change or a physical change to render unreadable the optically readable media, said media being sealed within said packaging with a source of a chemical compound that promotes said change, said packaging comprising a getter of said chemical compound.